

The Trustworthy Heart

By Mansoor Ali Shah

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَّسُولُ اللَّهِ

Baba and Mansoor's Conversation

Mansoor sat on the floor, carefully building a tower with his wooden blocks. His face lit up with joy as the tower grew taller. Baba watched him with a warm smile.

Baba: That's a wonderful tower, Mansoor! But tell me, if I asked you to guard these blocks for me, would you keep them safe?

Mansoor: Of course, Baba! I would never let them fall.

Baba: That's good, my son. You see, being trustworthy is very important in Islam. The Prophet ﷺ taught us that when someone trusts us with something, we must never betray that trust.

Mansoor: Like when Mama gives me a secret mission to hide her cookies from Ahmad?

Baba: chuckles Yes, but only if she really trusts you to keep them safe, not just to keep them away from your brother! Trust is serious. The Prophet ﷺ said that there are four bad habits that make someone a hypocrite, and one of them is breaking trust.

Mansoor: What are the other three, Baba?

Baba: Good question! The Prophet ﷺ said:

1. When a person is trusted, he must not betray.
2. When he speaks, he must not lie.
3. When he makes a promise, he must not break it.
4. And when he argues, he should not be rude or hurtful.

Mansoor: Oh! So if I promise my friend to bring his book back, I must return it?

Baba: Exactly! If you don't, you are breaking a promise. Imagine if Allah trusts us with goodness, but we don't follow it. That would be very bad, wouldn't it?

Mansoor: Yes, Baba! I want to be a good Muslim and always keep my promises.

Baba: That's my boy! The best people are those whom others can trust. Even the Prophet ﷺ was called Al-Ameen—the Trustworthy—because he never betrayed anyone.

Mansoor smiled proudly and placed his blocks carefully in Baba's hands.

Mansoor: Baba, I trust you with my tower. Please keep it safe!

Baba: laughs I promise, my son. And a true Muslim never breaks his promise.